

Case 2769

***Laeocochlis* Dunker & Metzger, 1874 (Mollusca, Gastropoda): proposed conservation as the correct spelling**

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Abstract. The purpose of this application is to establish *Laeocochlis* Dunker & Metzger, 1874 as the correct spelling of the generic name for a European triphoroid mollusc. The valid name of the type species is *L. macandraeae* (A. Adams, 1856).

1. Dunker & Metzger (1874a (January), p. 7) described a new genus and species of marine gastropod as *Laiocochlis pommeraniae*, from 106 fathoms off the coast of southern Norway. The authors gave a more extensive description and provided an illustration later the same year (1874b, p. 146, pl. 7, fig. 3). This time the generic name was spelled *Laeochochlis* in the text and *Laiocochlis* on the plate. The name appeared as *Laeocochlis* in the index to the volume. Thus within one year four spellings had appeared.

2. An account of the zoological results of the voyage was published in the double volume 2–3 of the *Jahresbericht der Kommission zur wissenschaftlichen Untersuchung der deutschen Meere*. This included a description of the new genus and species (Dunker & Metzger, 1875, p. 258, fig. 3 (p. 264), pl. 6, fig. 3); the name was spelled *Laeocochlis* both in the text and on the plate. The spelling *Laeocochlis* was also used by Metzger (1875a, p. 249; 1875b, p. 263), listing mollusc species found on the expedition, in two further papers in the same volume. Both the *Bibliotheca historico-naturalis...* (edited by Metzger, 1875c, p. 24) and the *Royal Society catalogue of scientific papers, 1874–1883* (1891, p. 753) recorded the Zoologische Ergebnisse as appearing in the *Jahresbericht* in 1875 but there is evidence that the work was issued as a separate a year earlier (see Taschenberg, 1887, p. 864). The date 1874 was given for the work by Norman (1879, pp. 53, 56, 62; 1899, p. 152), and was followed by Dautzenberg & Fischer (1912, p. 175) on the evidence of Norman. The spelling *Laeocochlis* was also used by Metzger & Dunker (1875, p. 183) in a list of all the mollusc species found on the expedition.

3. Martens (1875, p. 116) doubted the validity of the genus, regarding it as merely a sinistral *Trichotropis* Broderip & Sowerby, 1829. In his paper he commented on the various spellings used in the text of the paper by Dunker & Metzger (1874b), and proposed the use of *Laeocochlis* as the correct Latin orthography. Kobelt, the editor of both the *Nachrichtsblatt* (cf. 1874a) and the *Jahrbücher* (cf. 1874b) of the Deutsche Malakozoologische Gesellschaft, pointed out in a footnote to Martens's comment that the spelling *Laiocochlis* was intended, as that was what the authors had used both on the plate and in their submittal manuscript. The incorrect spelling *Laeochochlis* (1874b, text) was a typographical error. Only *Laiocochlis* was used in indexing Martens's paper (1875, p. viii).

4. The earliest spelling *Laiochochlis* has never been adopted by subsequent workers. Most subsequent usage favoured the later spelling *Laeocochlis*, but use of the spelling *Laiocochlis* is not unknown. Authors using *Laeocochlis* include Sars (1878, p. 190), Norman (1879, pp. 53, 62; 1899, p. 152), Fischer (1884, p. 684), Dautzenberg & Fischer (1912, p. 175), Thiele (1929, p. 218), Thorson (1941, p. 46), Óskarsson (1962, p. 69), Clarke (1974, p. 6), Høisæter (1986, p. 91) and Graham (1988, p. 478). Authors using *Laiocochlis* include Wenz (1940, p. 782), Korobkov (1960, p. 159), Nordsieck (1968, p. 73) and Vaught (1989, p. 38); and *Laiocochlis* is the type genus of the subfamily LAIOCOCHLIINAE [sic] Golikov & Starobogatov (1987, p. 28). When author and date are cited, both spellings of the name, *Laeocochlis* and *Laiocochlis*, are ascribed to 'Dunker & Metzger, 1874'. Other variants of the generic name, such as *Laeococchlias*, *Laeocochlys*, *Laevicochlis* and *Leiocochlis*, are known, but these are incorrect subsequent spellings and have no nomenclatural status. The name *Laeocochlis* derives from the Greek *laos* (left) and *kochlos* (spiral shell) (Jaeger, 1955, pp. 61, 135) and, as Martens (1875) indicated, was the more correct Latin orthography, the form-*cochlis* being a feminine diminutive ending. *Laiocochlis* derives more directly from the Greek and, according to Kobelt (see para. 2), was the authors' originally intended spelling. In view of the lack of stability caused by variant spellings used by the original authors in different papers published in the same year, it is now proposed that the spelling that has enjoyed the greatest usage, including that of the present day, namely *Laeocochlis*, be formally adopted.

5. The name of the type species, *L. pommeraniae* Dunker & Metzger, 1874, is not in current use, as it is a junior subjective synonym of *Triforis macandraeae* A. Adams (1856, p. 1). That name has been less used than the emended forms *macandraeae*, *macandrei* or *macandrewae*, and has frequently been wrongly attributed to H. Adams, but it is not an incorrect original spelling (Article 32c of the Code). An extensive synonymy and bibliography is given in Dautzenberg & Fischer (1912, pp. 175–176). Martens (1876, p. 142), followed by Sars (1878, p. 190), synonymized both these Recent nominal taxa with the Crag fossil *Cerithium granosum* Wood, 1848, and most contemporary workers have accepted the synonymy. Wood's earliest use of *granosum* (1842, p. 538) was a nomen nudum, but he later (1848, p. 73, pl. 8, fig. 9) provided a description and illustration. Unfortunately *Cerithium granosum* is several times preoccupied, the most senior homonym being *C. granosum* Borson, [1822] (p. 327). The valid name of the type species is therefore *L. macandraeae* (A. Adams, 1856).

6. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to rule that *Laiochochlis*, *Laeochochlis* and *Laiocochlis* are incorrect spellings of *Laeocochlis* Dunker & Metzger, 1874;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the name *Laeocochlis* Dunker & Metzger, 1874 (January) (gender: feminine), type species by monotypy *Laiochochlis pommeraniae* Dunker & Metzger, 1874 (a junior subjective synonym of *Triforis macandraeae* A. Adams, 1856);
- (3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *macandraeae* A. Adams, 1856, as published in the binomen *Triforis macandraeae* (senior subjective synonym of the specific name of *Laiochochlis pommeraniae* Dunker & Metzger, 1874, the type species of *Laeocochlis* Dunker & Metzger, 1874);

- (4) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology the following names:
- (a) *Laiochochlis* Dunker & Metzger, 1874 (ruled in (1) above to be an incorrect spelling of *Laecochlis* Dunker & Metzger, 1874);
 - (b) *Laecochochlis* Dunker & Metzger, 1874 (ruled in (1) above to be an incorrect spelling of *Laecochlis* Dunker & Metzger, 1874);
 - (c) *Laiocochlis* Dunker & Metzger, 1874 (ruled in (1) above to be an incorrect spelling of *Laecochlis* Dunker & Metzger, 1874).

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